

Conservation Connections



Missouri Department of Conservation St. Louis Regional Newsletter

November 2009

Share the Harvest

By David E. Guntli, Conservation Agent

Share the harvest. These are simple words and an action that goes back to our pilgrim days. Holidays are a time when people gather and share with each other. Deer hunters can also share by participating in the Missouri Department of Conservation's "Share the Harvest" program. Since the program's inception in 1992, hunters have donated more than 1.9 million pounds of venison. Last year, 4,690 hunters donated 262,798 pounds of venison. This meat was distributed to over 80,000 people through 125 charitable organizations statewide.

Hunters must locate a participating deer meat processor. These are located in the 2009 Fall Deer & Turkey pamphlet or online at www.mdc.mo.gov/hunt/deer/share. Hunters then let the processor know how much of their deer they would like to donate, from one pound to the whole deer. The cost of processing the deer is still the responsibility of the hunter, however there are funds available to assist when a whole deer is donated.

A local sponsoring organization picks up the packaged meat and delivers it to participating charitable organizations for distribution to families in need. Records of donors are kept at the processor and maintained by MDC. Records of recipients are kept at the charitable organization. No names are on the packages, but they are marked "Share the Harvest."

Statewide sponsors of the cost-reduction program include MDC, Shelter Insurance, Bass Pro Shops, Conservation Federation of Missouri, J.B. Reynolds Foundation, Missouri Chapter Whitetails Unlimited, Missouri Chapter Safari Club International, Missouri Chapter National Wild Turkey Federation, and Drury Hotels. Persons wishing to contribute to this program can send a check to the Conservation Federation of Missouri at 728 West Main Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

SHARE THE HARVEST

To learn more about the program, contact the Conservation Department at (573) 522-4115, ext. 3290, or the Conservation Federation of Missouri at (573) 634-2322.

August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area

2360 Hwy D, St. Charles, MO 63304 Office hours are Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

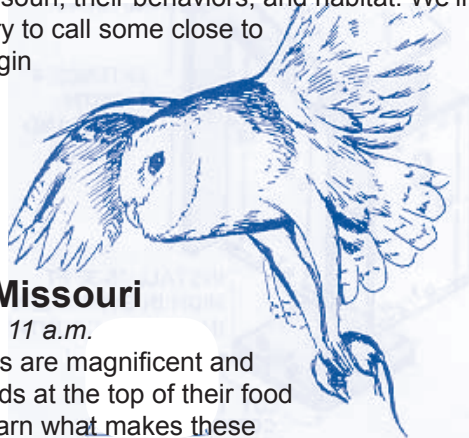
For reservations call (636) 441-4554 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice. From I-40 take Hwy 94 south to Hwy D; turn west on Hwy D for approximately 2 miles. The area entrance is on the north side of Hwy D. Visit www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis/buschca/

6 Owl Prowl

Friday 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.

(Families) Who's awake when you're sleeping? Come learn about the owls in Missouri, their behaviors, and habitat. We'll take a short hike to try to call some close to us. (Reservations begin October 23.)



7 Raptors of Missouri

Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

(Ages 7 – 12) Raptors are magnificent and highly specialized birds at the top of their food chains. Come and learn what makes these birds of prey both masters of flight and supreme hunters. Find out why it is so important that we protect these efficient predators. We will be focusing on those raptors that you might see in our state. (Reservations begin October 23.)

7 November's Nature Happenings

Saturday 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

(Ages 10 & up) November is an interesting month to really take notice of nature. We think much of the drama is gone, but with the leaves off the trees, there are unique opportunities



to observe nature and capture little pieces of quick doodles, sketches, and notes on nature stories for a naturalist's journal. Join us to observe and record animal signs and nature notes hidden by the

summer leaves. Program will be indoors and outdoors, please dress for the weather. (Reservations begin October 23.)

Volunteer Milestones

Aaron Jungbluth 1000 hours

12 Conservation Frontiers:

Missouri Mammals

Thursday 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

(Ages 7 – 12) Discover ten of Missouri's amazing mammals. We will explore distinguishing mammal characteristics and learn basic tracking through fun and interactive activities. *All are encouraged to attend and learn more about the Conservation Frontiers program. This event will help Frontiers families earn points towards Activity #39.* (Reservations begin October 29.)



14 Discover Nature Families: A Compass Will Point Your Way

Saturday 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

(Families with children ages 10 & up) The skill of map and compass reading are valuable in everyday life and many outdoor activities. Those who hike, bike, hunt, fish or backpack into remote areas should consider map reading and compass use as a basic first aid. This basic skills lesson is aimed at teaching how to use a map and compass together so these skills can be applied when using your natural resources. (Reservations begin October 30.)

20 Turkeys for Tots

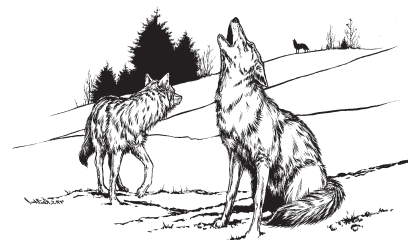
Friday 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

(Ages 3 – 5) The symbol of Thanksgiving, the turkey, is an interesting bird. Come to learn about the natural history and physical structure of this unique bird. You will also make a craft to take home. (Reservations begin November 6.)

28 Night Hike

Saturday 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

(Adults) Experience the sounds of the night during a moderate hike at the August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area. We will hike the Busch Hiking/Biking Trail which is approximately 3 ½ miles long. We hope to hear coyotes howling and several types of owls. (Reservations begin November 13.)



Columbia Bottom Conservation Area

801 Strodtman Road, St. Louis, MO 63138 Office hours are Wednesday - Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.;
Saturday - Sunday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**For reservations call (314) 877- 6014 Wednesday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.;
Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.** If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice. From I-270 north take the Riverview Drive exit (last Missouri exit); go north approximately 2.8 miles. Riverview Drive becomes Columbia Bottom Road at its intersection with Larimore Road. The entrance is on the right-hand side.
Visit www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/areas/bottom/

1 Confluence Quilters/Crafters

Sunday 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

(Ages 10 & up) A new group of quilters/crafters is forming. All ability levels are welcome. We will capture the beauty of each season in a unique quilt block. After a short walk to be inspired by nature, we will head inside to explore the shapes and colors of autumn. Enjoy refreshments with us and share ideas for design possibilities to create an autumn quilt block. This is the first of four blocks celebrating the seasons which will be put together to make an original wall hanging. Patterns will be provided – or you may come up with your own inspired design. (Reservations begin October 18.)

7 Basic Candle Making: What's the Buzz?

Saturday 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

(Ages 10 & up) Did you know the honeybee is the Missouri state insect? Or that it's the only insect which makes food people harvest and eat? That's not all that honeybees do for us. Learn more about these fascinating insects while making beeswax and dipped candles for the holidays. (Reservations begin October 24.)



7 Dresser Island Beaver Dam Sit

Saturday 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

(Adults) Join us as we take a night hike along the Dresser Island levee to sit and observe beavers at work and play. Beavers are nocturnal, so how much we "see" will depend on how bright the skies are that night and how quietly we sit. We can still use our other senses to observe as we wait near the beaver dam or lodge for them to start their nightly activities—they're called "busy beavers" for a reason!

We'll meet in the parking lot at Dresser Island and discuss beaver behavior as well as participant behavior before we head out along the trail to the beaver areas. This is an outdoor, nighttime activity, so dress accordingly, bring a flashlight to help you see on the 1.5 mile trail, and a chair. (Reservations begin October 24.)

21 Dutch Oven Cooking

Saturday 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

(Families) Soup's on! Come and get it! Who can resist a hot camp meal on a cool night? Join us for an evening of outdoor cooking. Learn the ins and outs of using a Dutch oven including how to prepare food, temperature control, cleaning and more. We will fill the air with smells that will make your mouth water, then sit down to a full meal cooked over hot coals. (Reservations taken November 1 through November 15.)



24 Wreath Making Series: Nature Decorator

Tuesday 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

(All Ages) This the second program in the Wreath Making series. In September we collected grapevine and set it up to dry. This month we are going to be collecting all of the items to put on our wreath such as dried grass, seed pods, nuts, and leaves. If you missed the grapevine collecting program you can still get in on the fun. Look for the final program in the series where we put the wreaths together in December. (Reservations begin November 8.)

Volunteer Milestones

Bobbi Neal 100 hours
Barbra Stephenson 1000 hours



Rockwoods Reservation

2751 Glencoe Road, Wildwood, MO 63038 Office hours are Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

For reservations call (636) 458-2236 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice. From I-44 take Hwy 109 north 4 miles to Woods Avenue; left on Woods Avenue, then immediately right on Glencoe Road. From Manchester Road take Hwy 109 south 2 miles to Woods Avenue; right on Woods Avenue, then immediately right on Glencoe Road. Visit www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis/

10 The Incredible Journey

Tuesday 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

(Ages 8 & up) Where do you think the water you drank this morning will be tomorrow? It could end up in a stream, as a cloud or even as a glacier eventually. In this program we will explore the circuitous path that water takes as it moves around the earth. (Reservations begin October 27.)



17 Red Wigglers – Nature's Super Composters

Tuesday 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

(Adults & Families ages 7 & up) Have you ever wanted to create your own compost but didn't know where to start? Join us as we show you how to use red wiggler worms to create rich natural compost. Once established, they do all the work. (Reservations begin November 3.)

19 It's Turkey Time

Thursday 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

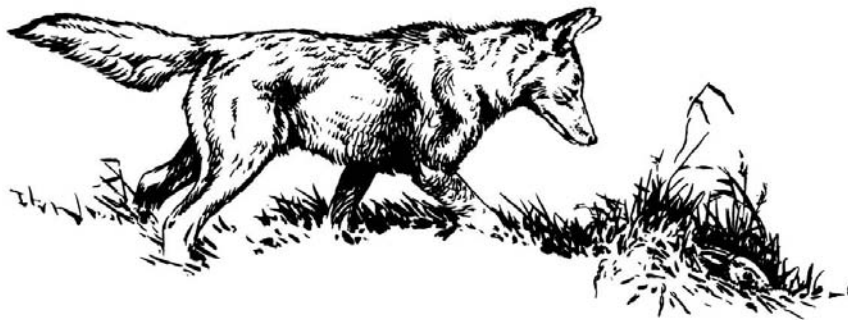
(Ages 3 – 6) Want to learn more about the bird that is famous this time of year? Strut your way to Rockwoods Reservation to gobble up fun turkey facts, games, and crafts. (Reservations begin November 5.)



21 Carnivores of Missouri

Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

(Ages 7 – 12) Come and learn about some of Missouri's most adaptable and effective hunters. These flesh eating mammals of Missouri are beautiful animals with fairly high intelligence. Some may even visit your backyard on a regular basis even if you don't see them. Find out why it is so important that we allow these efficient predators to flourish. (Reservations begin November 6.)



Volunteer Milestones

Pat Burrell-Standley 400 hours

Forest Park Office

5595 Grand Drive, St. Louis, MO 63112 Office hours are Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

For reservations call (314) 877-1309 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice. From I-44 take Kingshighway north to West Pine Boulevard, turn left. Follow West Pine to Lindell, turn left onto Lindell. Continue on Lindell past Union Drive to Cricket, turn left. Take first available right onto Grand Drive. The Visitors Center is the tan brick, red tile-roofed building with arched windows, and a clock tower. It will be on the right side of the street. Free parking is available in the double lot to the left or on the street.

10 Bike It – Trees!

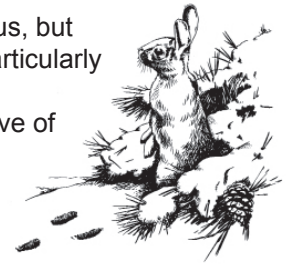
Tuesday 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

(Ages 10 & up) Accompany us as we take a leisurely bike ride through Forest Park to admire the fall foliage. We'll stop along the way to see and ID several species that give the splendid color of the season. This program will meet in front of the Dennis & Judith Jones Visitor and Education Center. Bring your bike, water bottle and dress for the weather. (Reservations begin October 27.)

14 Mammal Discovery Trunk

Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

(All Ages) Mammals are all around us, but there are many that we overlook, particularly the wild ones. This trunk focuses on twelve species that are representative of Missouri's wild mammal population. Contents include hides, rubber footprints, and posters. (No reservations required.)



18 Turkeys for Tots

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

(Ages 3 - 5) The symbol of Thanksgiving, the turkey, is an interesting bird. Learn about the natural history and physical structure of the bird. We will also make a craft to take home. (Reservations begin November 2.)

Catching Up With Conservation

By Linda Carroll, Public Service Assistant

Are you looking for that perfect gift for a special someone or just wanting to know what's going on in conservation? Then a visit to the Sullivan Office is in order. In our nature shop you can find information on the many plants and animals found in Missouri. For example, our wildflower book will help you identify the flowers in your yard and beyond, while our Bird Call CD will help you put a name to the birds that visit your area. Our bluebird, cardinal, and natural area notecards provide a beautiful way for you to keep in touch with friends and family. (These items are available at other MDC Nature Shops also).

For those hunting and fishing enthusiasts, we have information on nearby conservation areas that support these activities. In addition to providing area maps and information, we also sell hunting and fishing permits. Much more information can be found in the many free publications that we have available. Do you want to build a bird or bat house? We have plans! Do you want to learn what animal made the track you saw? We can provide you with that information as well.

While visiting our office, you will want to check out our bulletin board. Pulled from our local papers is information on a variety of topics including: upcoming education classes and workshops, hunting and camping safety, invasive species, native plants, issues in forestry, and much more.

Did you get a fish, turkey, or deer you are proud of? Was it your first harvest and you want to brag about it? Or, maybe you found a great mushroom you want to show off? You can drop by with a photo for us to post on our board or you can stop by with the results of your hunting, fishing, or mushroom finding trip and we can take a photo here at the office and then post it for all to see.

So, stop by if you're in the Sullivan area and check out what's new in conservation. Who knows? You might even come face to face with your own, or a friend's, picture already posted on our board!

Sullivan Office

375 Hwy 185 South, Sullivan, MO 63080

For information call (573) 468-3335 Office hours are Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - Noon and 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

From the east/St. Louis take I-44 west to exit 226, south on Highway 185 through stoplight. Office is first place on the right.

Services provided: Private Lands, Forestry, Fisheries, Outreach & Education, and Protection

Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center

11715 Cragwold Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122 Nature Center hours are daily 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Junior Duck Stamp Best of Show Exhibit

The Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program is a dynamic arts curriculum that teaches wetlands and waterfowl conservation to students in kindergarten through high school. Students complete a Junior Duck Stamp design as their visual “term papers.” The Junior Duck Stamp *Best of Show* pieces are displayed throughout the United States from May until April the following year. The artwork will be exhibited at Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center during the month of November 2009.



“Serenity” by Rebekah Nastav -
Common Goldeneye
2009 Missouri Best of Show Winner



7 Scout Discovery Table: Endangered Species

Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

(All ages) Are Bald Eagles and bison still endangered species? What about passenger pigeons or barn owls? Find the answers to these and other questions about which species are endangered in Missouri. **Brownies** can work on What's Out There: Eco-Explorer #5. **Junior Girl Scouts** can work on Let's Get Outdoors: Wildlife #6. **Cub Scout Bears** can work on Sharing Your World With Wildlife: Achievement #5e. All are welcome and encouraged to check it out. (No reservations required.)

11 Discover Nature – Women: “Show Me” Quilts

Wednesday 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

(Ages 14 & up, under 16 must be accompanied by an adult) Sew it and show it in the true “Show Me” state fashion! Spend the afternoon exploring a few of Missouri’s state symbols with a focus on the state tree of Missouri, the dogwood tree. We will learn about the dogwood and take a short walk outside for an up close look at this beautiful tree! Afterwards, get ready to construct your own appliqué dogwood branch. There will be a short list of items you will need to bring which will be sent to you after registration.



Experienced and inexperienced quilters are all encouraged to attend. By the end of the program series you will be equipped with nine quilt block patterns. These patterns include the flowering dogwood tree, eastern bluebird, white hawthorn blossom, Missouri mule, three-toed box turtle, paddlefish, honey bee, American bullfrog, and the state of Missouri silhouette. The appliqué process will be taught and constructed in class. All sewing will be done at home on your own sewing machine. Sewing machine demonstrations will be done in class.

This will be the first in a four-part series. Join us for one, two, three, or all four sessions. Please take note, the first and third classes will be held at Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center. The second and fourth classes will be held at Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial State Park. (Reservations begin October 27.)

For reservations call (314) 301-1500 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice. From I-44 east to Kirkwood, take S. Kirkwood Road (Route 61/67). Follow Route 61/67 to Watson Road. Go west on Watson Road to Geyer Road. Go north on Geyer Road 200 yards to Cragwold Road. Go 1 mile west on Cragwold Road. Visit www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/cnc/powder/

12 Nature's Niche: Soap Making

Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

(Ages 50 & up) Making soap is fun and can be educational. Discover how early Missouri pioneers made soap using the ash from their fires and the suet from their butchered animals. Don't worry if you are squeamish! We will use modern-day ingredients to make soap you can take home and use. (Reservations begin October 28.)

14 Animal Tracks and Traces

Saturday 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

(Ages 3 – 6) Let's be animal track and trace detectives. When the animal isn't in sight, how do you know it's been there? How and where do animals make tracks – that is, footprints? What other kinds of traces do they leave? (What about squirrel nests or spider webs?) Learn with crafts and stories. Weather permitting; we will also go on a short hike to look for



animal tracks and traces. (Reservations begin October 29.)

18 Homeschool: Autumn Habitat Hike at Emmenegger Nature Park

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

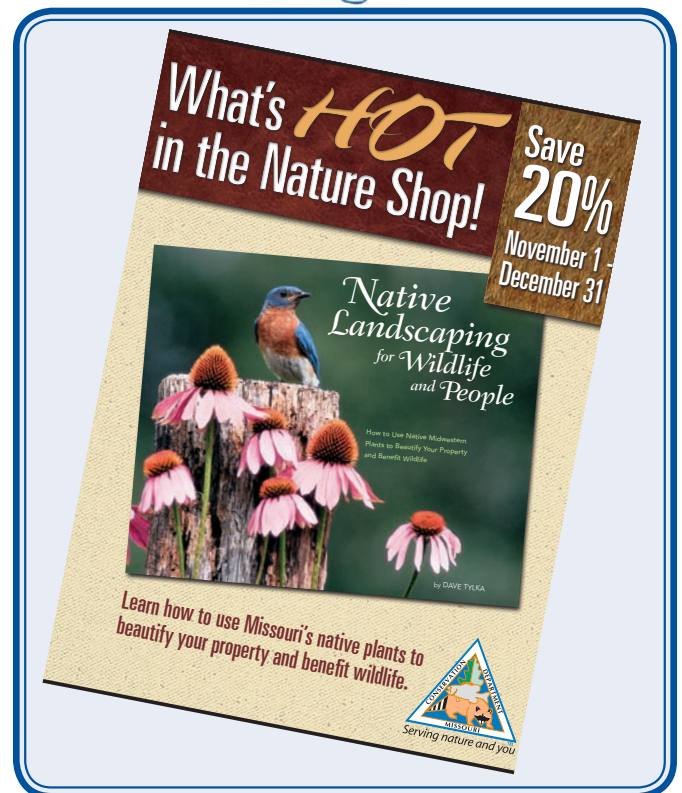
(Ages 6 -12) Who's ready for exploring the outdoors during the autumn season? Join other homeschoolers in taking a hike at the Emmenegger Nature Park. To get to Emmenegger Nature Park, go west on Cragwold Road (past the Powder Valley entrance), cross over the highway and go south (left) on Stonewood. We'll hike along the Meramec, through the forest, and to the hilltop glade. Meet at the picnic pavilion. (Reservations begin November 4.)



23 Peek-a-Poo: Uncover the Mystery of Scat

Monday 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

(Ages 7-12) Animal poop is interesting, when it's not on the bottom of your shoe! From providing habitat, to being used as fertilizer, "scat" serves many purposes. Come learn about the different functions of scat and hike the trails to find specimens (Reservations begin October 10.)



Nature Films!

Powder Valley shows nature films most weekends. They are shown in the auditorium and are free of charge. No reservations are required and groups are welcome! Please call for specific program dates and listings: (314) 301-1500.

Children's films are shown 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Family films are shown 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Volunteer Milestones

Elizabeth Cosbey 1500 hours
Susan Hussey 1500 hours
Jeff Wolf 1250 hours

Conservation Connections



Outdoor Etiquette?

By Tamie Yegge, Nature Center Manager

I'm not talking "take your shoes off at the door" etiquette or when you must know which fork to use when. However, there are manners that can apply to using the outdoors, just as much as they would when visiting your grandma's house. Think about how you felt the last time your personal space was invaded, or someone was careless with something you cherished; or when your neighbor let his dog use your front walk as his potty spot for the hundredth time; or you did something extra nice for someone and they didn't bother to acknowledge you. If you think about it, most of us really don't care so much about the silverware, but it means a lot to us when others are respectful and kind. I'll bet you feel better when you make that extra effort and it is met with a smile.

Think of visiting conservation areas, parks, trails, campgrounds, and other similar areas like taking a trip to grandmas. There are lots of things you can do to help take care of the outdoor areas which you visit and have a better experience while you're there; I've listed just a few of them here for you to think about:

- Check to determine rules of the area you are going to visit and follow them. Not all of them may make sense to you, but they are there for a reason.
- Wear the appropriate clothing, especially footwear! Improper shoes may actually be dangerous, as the soles may be slick or they may not provide adequate ankle support. You might also get blisters!
- Stay on the trail, don't use cut-offs, switchbacks, or paths that aren't part of the trail. This creates erosion over time and can undermine the original trail. It costs money to repair trails and fight erosion, so help protect what's there.
- Stay to the right and pass on the left, but always quietly let people know you are coming up behind them. It also makes the day brighter when hikers say hello when passing in opposite directions.
- Be courteous of other people. Use i-pods, cell phones, and radios quietly and speak softly. Avoid disrupting birding or wildlife experiences. Remember, each person is out there for their own reasons and should be respected.
- Yield to uphill hikers when you are moving down the hill. They've got a much harder task! If they choose to stop, you can then move forward. On trails which allow jogging, bikes, and horses, it's a bit more complicated. Bikes and joggers must yield to walkers. Everyone must yield to horses for safety purposes.
- Pack out what you take in. Even food waste such as orange peels, apple cores, and peanut shells. These take a long time to degrade and no one wants to see litter destroying an otherwise perfect natural setting. Empty soda cans weigh much less than full ones, and can be smashed to fit in a pocket. Cigarette butts **ARE** litter too. Filters are **not** made of cotton and they do **not** biodegrade. They are made of compressed fibers of cellulose acetate, a plastic, similar to photographic film. Cigarette butt chemicals in our streams, lakes, and rivers are a significant threat to aquatic life.
- Don't collect anything (unless it is specifically permitted.) Leave natural items for the next person to see. If you pick a fistful of flowers, they'll be wilted before you are off the trail and gone for others to enjoy. Wild animals and their homes should be left alone. Never pick up a baby or pursue any animal. Take pictures instead.
- In areas where pets are allowed, they should be kept on a leash. Even a very friendly dog can accidentally injure a child, and imagine how scary it must feel to be eye to eye with a strange canine. Narrow trails do not leave much room for passing so keep your dog on the outside so you are between him and the person you are passing.



We want each and every one of you to enjoy public outdoor areas for what they are intended. As beautiful as a place may be, it may not be for you if you have particular activities in mind. Please match the area you choose to visit to the activities in which you plan to engage. An easy way to get quick information about some MDC areas close to you is by using the atlas database. Go to www.missouriconservation.org and click on "conservation areas." You can search by area name if you know it, region, or county. Once you find an area of interest, there are maps, area brochures, regulations, activities, features, facilities, and more. There is also contact information so you can call with any questions you may have. If you don't have access to the internet, give your local conservation office a call. We'll be happy to assist you in finding the right area for the activities you wish to participate.

So next time you decide to venture out for an outdoor activity, pretend you are going to grandma's house...better yet, take her along, and show her what great outdoor manners you have!

Conservation Connections

Featured Area

Howell Island Conservation Area

Howell Island Conservation Area is located in St. Charles County, across the Missouri River from the Weldon Spring Conservation Area. It is mostly forest surrounded by the Missouri River and Centaur Chute.

This 2,547-acre island was purchased by the Conservation Department in 1978. It is mostly forested with bottomland trees such as cottonwood and sycamore, but crop and shrub/grass fields also provide important habitat for wildlife.

The island can be located by exiting Highway 40-61 and traveling west 3 miles on Olive Street/Eatherton Road. Entrance to the island is by a causeway over Centaur Chute. During high water, the causeway is flooded and access is by boat only. Use extreme caution whenever attempting to navigate in high water.*

*Howell Island is not accessible via the causeway when the Missouri River is above 16-feet on the St. Charles area river gauge. To find river stages go to <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/ahps2>.

For more information call: 636-441-4554.

Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching – Spring migration of songbirds is fair.

Camping – Boat-in along Missouri River.

Fishing – Catfish- Good; Crappie- Fair; Whitebass fishing from causeway, Other- fair.

Hiking – Access dependent on river levels. 8-mile multi-use trail.

Hunting – Deer- Good. Archery methods only.

Hunting – Squirrel- Good. No single projectiles allowed**

Hunting – Turkey- Good.

Trapping – With Special Use Permit.

**Firearms firing single projectiles prohibited except during managed deer hunts and except furbearers treed with the aid of dogs may be taken with a twenty-two (.22) caliber firearm.

Jay Henges Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

1100 Antire Road, High Ridge, MO 63049

Range Hours: May 1 - August 31: Wednesday 2 p.m. - 8 p.m. , Thursday - Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

September 1 - April 30: Wednesday - Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays and all State and Federal Holidays.

For reservations call (636) 938-9548 Wednesday through Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice. From the east/St. Louis: I-44 west to Beaumont/Antire Road, exit 269. Left over I-44 to Antire Road. Right on Antire road. One hundred feet to entrance. Left into driveway. From the west/Eureka: I-44 east to Beaumont/Antire Road, exit 269. Follow exit lane around to top.

Visit <http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges/>

5 Knife Care and Sharpening

Thursday 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

(Ages 16 & up) Dull knives are dangerous knives! Let's learn the proper techniques and methods of sharpening and maintaining your knives in tip-top shape. You may bring your own knives to the class. Registration is limited to 12 participants. (Reservations begin October 5.)

11 Veterans Day – Jay Henges Range Closed

19 Shotshell Reloading Made Easy

Thursday 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

(Ages 16 & up) Due to the rising cost of shotshell ammunition, here is your opportunity to learn the inexpensive process of reloading shotgun shells using simple equipment. The technique is easy and will save you money over the cost of factory ammunition. This is a hands-on learning class; we'll produce quality shotshells with low-cost equipment. Class is limited to 12. (Reservations begin October 19.)



26 Thanksgiving Day – Jay Henges Range Closed



Reminder: Beginning December 1, 2009 the rifle/pistol range will be under renovation and will be closed for a prediction of approximately 10 months. During this time the trap ranges, archery ranges, and the shotgun patterning range at Jay Henges will remain open. If you have any questions or would like more information about the renovation please call the range at 636-938-9548.

Busch Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

2360 Hwy D, St. Charles, MO 63304

Hours are Friday - Monday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Tuesday from 2 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Closed Wednesdays and Thursdays and all State and Federal Holidays.

For reservations call (636) 441-4554 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on our waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice. From I-40 take Hwy 94 south to Hwy D; turn west on Hwy D for approximately 5 miles. The area entrance is on the south side of Hwy D. Visit <http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/busch/>

11 Veteran's Day – Busch Range Closed

MDC DISCOVER Hunting



12 Discover Hunting: Knife Sharpening

Thursday 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

(Ages 11 & up) Make sure you are ready for deer season by having a sharpened knife. Discuss methods, styles, and techniques for putting an edge on your knife. Be sure to bring any equipment that you use. If you don't have any or all of the equipment needed it will be provided. (Reservations begin October 13.)

18 Firearm Selection

Wednesday 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

(Ages 8 & up) Curious about the type of firearm that is right for you or someone you are shopping for? In this class we will discuss pros and cons of all firearms and help you decide what is best for you and what you want to use it for. (Reservations begin October 19.)

19 Firearm Safety in the Home

Thursday 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

(Ages 8 & up with a parent or adult) We will cover proper storage and safety for keeping firearms and ammunition in your home. We will also discuss the equipment that is available to be used to properly store firearms and ammunition. (Reservations begin October 19.)

26 Thanksgiving Day – Busch Range Closed

DISCOVER LITTLE KNOWN NATURE FACTS

Wood frogs (*Rana sylvatica*) are the only North American frog that lives above the Arctic Circle. Frogs are ectotherms (cold-blooded) meaning they cannot internally control their body temperatures. Wood frogs are adapted to cold winters being able to survive a deep freeze: Their breathing, blood flow, and heartbeat stop, and ice crystals form beneath their skin. While ice crystals in human skin would result in serious problems (frostbite), wood frogs are safe because high glycogen levels in their cells act like anti-freeze, restricting the frozen areas to the extra-cellular fluid, where no tissue damage will occur. Cool frogs!



For a complete listing of all Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education classes throughout the region, visit the web at www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis and click on the "Hunter Education" link on the left of the page.



Conservation Connections

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Sign up to receive a direct link on-line to **Conservation Connections** by visiting www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis/ and entering your e-mail address.

How to Get Share the Harvest Started In Your Area

- Clubs or organizations wishing to coordinate the Share the Harvest program in their area may contact a conservation agent in their county or the Conservation Department at the address on the back panel. Agencies that distribute venison also may fulfill the role of coordinator.
- Distributing agencies should be nonprofit charitable organizations. They must have proper storage for the meat, and agree to distribute uncooked venison directly to families or individuals.
- The coordinator should locate a deer processor who agrees to participate in Share the Harvest. Processors also must be a government-inspected facility.
- Once agreements are made with the coordinator, deer processors, and distributing agencies, permission must be obtained from the Conservation Department to conduct a Share the Harvest program.
- After the local conservation agent approves the coordinator's choice of meat processors and distributing agencies, the coordinator will receive written authorization and instructions.

Did you know that you can conserve paper and receive this information quicker? Sign up to get a direct link on-line to *Conservation Connections* by visiting www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis/